

Wedded Enroute

By SAIDEE E. BALCOM

The newly selected clergyman for Merton stood looking down at a barren expanse of meadow, sparsely sheltered inside of a board structure, one end of which was entirely exposed to the elements.

He had been informed by letter by his new parishioners that he would be met by wagon or by a light hand-car which twice a day brought freight, and sometimes passengers, from Merton along a seven-mile abandoned narrow-gauge spur. Neither wagon nor hand-car had appeared, and almost with resentment Rev. Joel Manniere stood viewing the unfamiliar landscape.

He ran out into the middle of the road and waved his arms as an automobile driven by a pleasant-faced young man, a very charming girl of about seventeen at his side, slowed up.

"Please excuse me," spoke the forlorn one, "but I am a stranger, and was to have been met here by somebody. I am the new pastor of the Merton church. Can you direct me how to reach that town?"

"Why, jump right in!" cried Alan Ware, open-heartedly.

"I think I understand," spoke up Lucille Durland. "We passed a wagon broken down in a rut some ways down the road, and it must be the one delegated to see that you were taken care of."

"As it is, make yourself comfortable in the back seat and we will get you to welcome and comfort in a jiffy," said Alan. "I am not much of a church man, but Lucille, here, has devotion enough to make up for a whole neglectful community."

It was very plain to Reverend Manniere that he was in the company of two heartsome beings, very much in love with each other.

Lucille told him a lot as to his new charge, and the clergyman warmed towards the bright-spirited young fellow, who kept up an animated conversation until the reverend gentleman was landed in the hotel at Merton.

Alan and Lucille were secretly engaged. She lived with her stepfather at the edge of Merton, and behind her home was a shed where the hand-car was stored. Lucille's mother was dead and her stepfather, a crusty, exacting old tyrant, and a servant were her sole home companions. Alan left her a few hundred feet from the house, for Mr. Durland had a decided aversion to beaux, and had told Lucille she must not think of engagement or marriage for at least two years to come.

"Wednesday afternoon, Lucille," were Alan's parting words.

"Yes, if you must have your way. Oh, dear! I fear there will be a scene when father learns the truth."

"It's the only way to insure our happiness," insisted Alan. "I'll come at about three, in the automobile. You be all ready, and we'll spin to Verden and be back, man and wife, before your father gets home."

And Wednesday at three o'clock Alan Ware drove up in front of the Durland place. The servant liked him and, admitting him, told him that Lucille would be downstairs in a few minutes. Alan was impatiently awaiting the appearance of his lady love when the servant burst into his presence, alive with excitement.

"Mr. Ware," she fluttered, "Mr. Durland is coming tearing down the street like mad. I don't know why, but if you do, and your idea is to go somewhere with Lucille, you had better hurry."

"That fellow, Ware!" panted Mr. Durland, a few minutes later dashing into the house. "That's his automobile outside. He's trying to steal a march on me! Where is he, Lucille?"

"Mr. Ware was here a minute ago," reported the servant, "and Miss Lucille was up in her room."

But Alan had disappeared, and, Lucille, too. Warned by the servant, they had stolen out the back way. The dauntless Alan resolved that the elopement should not be a fizzle. Had he not the marriage license in his pocket? Lucille was all unnerved, but she followed his instructions. They had reached the hand-car shelter.

"It's the only way," declared Alan, and settled the old but light vehicle across the rails. "Now, then, dear, for terminus and a dash on foot to Verden before your father can overtake us!"

Richard Durland uttered a hollow roar of rage and discomfiture as he saw his stepdaughter and Alan speeding down the rails. Then he hurried around the house and jumped into Alan's automobile.

From the hand-car the fugitives could discern and comprehend this maneuver. Whenever the road beyond the cut came within view of Alan, he could see the automobile keeping pace with them. Turning a curve he made out a figure walking between the rails.

"Oh!" spoke Lucille. "It's Mr. Manniere!"

"What luck! Hi, get aboard! We need you," cheerily hailed Alan, and the hand-car slowed down, and then dashed on again, with three passengers aboard.

The automobile reached the end of the spur first. As the hand-car arrived Durland made a dash for his stepdaughter.

"Reached you in time!" he shouted. "No, too late," dissented Alan, all smiles. "Mr. Durland, allow me to introduce you to our accommodating friend, Rev. Mr. Manniere. He has just married us, en route."

The Tea Cup Analyst

By RALPH HAMILTON

They called Miss Phoebe Dayton a spinster, but juvenile looking and animated at forty, the seeress of the village, she never laid claim to any extraordinary occult powers. Her speciality was tea grounds and she enjoyed telling fortunes through the bottom of a cup.

"Of course it may be silly and all that," Miss Dayton confessed, "but it pleases me and fun for the bright young spirits who flock about me. I never try to find any misfortune in the tea grounds—but always something bright and hopeful and happy."

Miss Dayton had invited five girls to tea and as they reached the end of the refectory there was a thrill of excitement and anticipation as she announced:

"Now then, girls, pass up your tea-cups in the order in which you sit and I will try and construe what the tea leaves say. Oh, dear! My own cup predicts a new arrival. It is a handsome young man. Don't flutter so. Only one of you can have him."

"Which is the lucky girl?" pressed Ada Rankin.

"Not you, dear," announced Miss Dayton, "for you already have one ring and I see another one coming."

There was one new girl in the group who took in all this exhibition of clairvoyant power with great innocent eyes. She was Elsie Travis and she shrank back timidly as she passed up her cup. She fairly trembled as Miss Dayton took up the cups in turn, gave each one a shake and impressively surveyed the leaves and specks. Over two of the cups she shook her head quite doubtingly. Then she picked up the one Elsie had drunk out of.

Elsie had noticed that in some way her cup had been put fourth in order instead of fifth, where it belonged. Miss Dayton did not know this.

"Alma Wharton's cup," she announced mistakenly. "Ah! here's a fine oracle. Alma, you are the fortunate one. Here is the handsome stranger. The sun is shining when he comes and I see an auto ride in the moonlight, sweet love making, a blushing, happy bride, a fairy castle like a palace."

Alma laughed gayly. "I shall tell my fiance all about it," she exulted, "and make him jealous, and then as Miss Dayton read a fanciful fortune from the last cup—really Alma—the party broke up."

Miss Dayton had introduced "the handsome young man because a friend in another town had advised her that one Perry Barton, living there, had been left some property in Elmwood through the death of a relative, including the show place of the town, the Cedars."

The impressionable Elsie was considerably aroused by the fortune of the teacup and she began to live a romance, wondering if the prediction of Miss Dayton would come true.

A week after the tea party Elsie, strolling through the woods in quest of flowers, came upon a young man near the hotel at the lake. He walked with a cane and suggested a person who had recently sustained some limb injury. A queer thrill pervaded Elsie as she noticed with one swift glance that he was young and undeniably handsome, and her foolish little heart fluttered as he halted and lifted his hat courteously.

"You will pardon me, please, but do you live in the town?" and then, as Elsie assented, he added: "I met with an auto accident a week ago and have been rusticated at the hotel. I started for Elmwood expecting to get some mail, but I find my sprained foot will not carry me there. I wonder where you go back to the village if you could not get my mail—I will give you a written order—and hire some accommodation to deliver it to me and I will gladly pay him for his trouble."

"I will see that your wish is attended to," replied Elsie, and the young man wrote on a card authorizing the postmaster to deliver to the bearer what mail there might be for Perry Barton.

Elsie received three letters at the post office. She had it in mind to have her little brother Ned take them to the hotel. He was not in ready call, so she herself walked back to the lake. Mr. Barton was profuse in his thanks. He told Elsie the details of his accident and she sympathized in his mishap. He had started for Elmwood on business, but this was postponed on account of his accident and awaiting repairs on his automobile.

But that would be ready for use the next day, he further told Elsie, and would she bear him company then, and add to her kindness by showing him the points of interest in the district? And one moonlight night a little later as he took her home from a drive around the lake, it suddenly dawned upon Elsie that at least two points in Miss Dayton's prediction had come true.

It was a few evenings later when Perry Barton told Elsie of his love. In a mutual confidence that followed Elsie related the incidents of the tea party.

"All that's left to complete the oracle is the castle-like palace!" smiled Barton. "Well, my dear, that too is an actuality. It was to look over the Cedars, which I have inherited, that I came to Elmwood, and you, mistress of my heart, are bound to be its mistress, too!"

Col. H. M. JOHANSEN, AUCTIONEER.

Sale Dates:

January—

7th. General farm sale at Lexington.

15th. Dennis Breen, general farm sale northeast of North Platte.

14th. Geo. Snyder's general farm sale 3 miles east of Maxwell.

19th. Joe Pilnas, general farm sale southeast of North Platte.

20th. General farm sale at Lexington.

21st. Harry Goldsmith, general farm sale, southwest of city.

28th. E. D. O'Mara, general farm sale, northeast of North Platte.

February—

4th. Lee Mustard, general farm sale, southeast of North Platte.

11th. Chas. Swedell, general farm sale 4 miles west of North Platte.

18th. A. H. Turpen general farm sale 10 miles northeast of North Platte.

Land and Stock Sale.

On March 9, 1920, Mrs. Bartholomew & Son will hold a stock and land sale, 1120 acres of land, in Sec. 2, T. 16, R. 32, and Sec. 36, T. 17, R. 32, located 12 miles south of Tryon, 20 miles northwest of North Platte and 2½ miles west of Tryon mail route. Now is the time for those interested to look this land over, while the snow is on, as it will be sold upon the above date regardless of the weather. 1021f

ROSE ABOVE HUMBLE STATION

Thomas Britton a Curious Anomaly in English Social Life of Time of Queen Anne.

One of the most curious anomalies of the social life of London during the time of Queen Anne—called the Augustan age because of its great literary men—was a retail dealer in coal, named Thomas Britton, who was buried in Clerkenwell churchyard, London, on October 1, 1714. He exercised a humble craft, and occupied a habitation and wore a garb corresponding in plainness to his trade, and yet this singular man contrived by his various talents, and more especially his musical tastes, to assemble around him the most aristocratic company in London, and to be admitted into their society on equal terms. According to the practice of the time, he sold coal in small quantities, delivering it himself each morning. It is related that having finished his rounds, he joined a distinguished company that met each Saturday at one of the bookellers to discuss literature and exchange opinions respecting the latest books. This company contained such distinguished and powerful persons as the duke of Devonshire and the earls of Oxford, Pembroke, Sunderland and Winchelsea. Britton's house in Aylesbury street, Clerkenwell, was the meeting place of leaders in the fashionable society of London. On the ground floor was the warehouse for coal, and above, reached by breakneck stairs from the outside, was a low narrow room, in which the musical coalman entertained his grand and elegant guests. A portrait of this remarkable man is in the British museum.

NOTHING UNREAL ABOUT THIS

Only an Idealist Would Have Expected Anything Else From the Modern Gilded Youth.

Editor George Horace Lorimer was talking in a Philadelphia club about realism.

"I've got no time for realists," he said, "because they paint human nature worse than it is. Here's a typical realist story for you:

"A pretty girl was engaged to two young men simultaneously, and one evening the parlor maid came to her and said in a scared voice:

"Oh, Miss Bessie, then two gents what you're engaged to has called together, and somehow they've found out about both engagements."

"The pretty girl threw her cigarette into the fire pettishly.

"What the dickens shall I do?" she exclaimed.

"But the parlor maid smiled joyfully.

"I'll tell you what to do, Miss Bessie," she said. "I'll go downstairs and say you're crying in your room because your pop has lost all his money. Then you can be engaged for keeps to the gent what stays."

"That seems a good plan," said the pretty girl, and she lit another cigarette and waited.

"The maid was gone about three minutes. Then she returned with a frightened look on her white face.

"Miss Bessie, both on 'em has gone," she said."

A Preacher Fisherman.

He couldn't get rich preaching, so he gave it up and went fishing. After a season's work with a salmon fishing crew he had enough money to buy tickets to Norway for his wife, their four children and himself. Now Rev. H. B. Nyoen, former pastor of the Norwegian Baptist church of Tacoma, Wash., is on his way to Norway where he says preaching is more lucrative than in America.

His desire for money was due entirely to his longing to return to Norway. When his earnings as a fisherman were sufficient to buy the tickets he was willing to quit fishing. He will go to Harstad, Norway, where he will receive as pastor about \$1,500 a year, with house and fuel. He received only \$800 from his little church in Tacoma.

PROGRESS OF STATE AND FEDERAL AID ROADS

Thine Lincoln Journal says: Up to date nearly a million dollars of the ten and a half millions available during a five years' term have been expended by the state highway department on the roads of the state. With the opening of spring, however, the number of contracts will be multiplied and 1920 will see vast activity scattered all over the state, by that time most surveys and other preliminaries will have been completed.

Nebraska now has thirty-one federal aid projects under construction, at an estimated cost of \$2,885,000, of which the federal government will pay \$1,352,000. A hundred and twenty-one projects have been submitted by the state highway at an estimated cost of \$8,075,821, of which the government is called to pay nearly four millions. Of these the government has approved projects totaling \$2,471,000. Plans, specifications and estimates have been

submitted on forty-four projects, estimated to cost \$3,535,000, of which the government's share is \$1,630,000. Thirty project agreements have been executed, which call for \$2,671,000 expenditure, of which the government's share is \$1,245,000.

The road between North Platte and Sutherland is one of fifteen projects that are announced to be fifty per cent completed.

The Bank of Lincoln County at Hershey has installed a \$1200 manganese burglar proof safe.

S. J. Koch has received a commission from the state grand master to install I. O. O. F. officers at Hershey Brady and North Platte.

Moore & Leypoldt, of Hershey, last week sold 190 head of white face cattle to a South Omaha firm. They weighed 900 pounds each and brought a fancy price.

When in North Platte stop at the New Hotel Palace and Cafe. You will be treated well.



HEATING PAD

Every family needs an electric pad. In case of sickness there is nothing like the continuous, uniform heat, with regulation for three different temperatures. It means comfort for those who use a sleeping porch or sleep in a cold room.



North Platte Light & Power Co.

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We Buy and Sell

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THE HARRINGTON MER. CO.

INCORPORATED 1887.

Mutual Building and Loan Association,

Of North Platte, Nebraska.

RESOURCES OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

The Association has unlimited funds at its command to assist in the building or purchase of homes for the people of North Platte. If you are interested, the officers of this Association will render every assistance and show you how easy it is to acquire your own home.

T. C. PATTERSON, BESSIE F. SALISBURY,
President. Secretary.

Winter Courses
University of Nebraska
School of Agriculture.

January 26 to Febr. 20, 1920.

GENERAL AGRICULTURE:—Better Farming Methods:—study of seed selection, crop rotation, soil tillage; Live Stock Farming:—judging of cattle, hogs, sheep and horses. Care and feeding of live stock. Diseases of Animals and Plants; Growing of Fruits and Vegetables; Poultry Raising for Profit.

DAIRYING:—A Practical Training in the essentials of the dairy business; Selection and care of Dairy Cattle, feeding, housing and management; Butter Making, cheese making, marketing of dairy products; Milk Testing, preparation of milk for market.

RURAL ECONOMICS:—Farm A counting, bookkeeping, farm records; Farm Organization, farm equipment, cropping systems; Marketing, grain exchanges, co-operative organization. For agricultural courses \$8.00.

AUTOMOBILES AND TRACTORS:—Course opens January 5.—Four weeks; Students enter every Monday. Instruction for the Farmer who handles his own machines; Lectures and Shop Work on engines, ignition, transmissions, differentials, carburetors, etc. Practice in operation, repair and care of tractors; New Building, splendid equipment, expert instructors. Fee \$10.00. Minimum Age Limit 18 Years. For further information address,

PRINCIPAL, SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE,

University Farm, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Gamble with Springer

THE CHAIN SYSTEM

No. 1, 220 North Locust, Phone 203.
No. 2, 116 East B Street, Phone 496.
No. 3, 621 East Fourth, Phone 791.
No. 4, 824 West Third.

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for your own use, buy it for the children and be ready for

Colds, Croup and Pneumonia

Ask any one who has used this medicine as to its merits.

ED BRIEGEL, Agent,

Route 1 North Platte.

Notice of Petition.

Estate No. 1715 of Joseph J. Bowker deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska. To all persons interested in said Estate, take notice that a petition has been filed for the appointment of Annie C. Kramph as administratrix of said estate, which has been set for hearing herein on January 30, 1920, at 9 o'clock a. m.

Dated December 31, 1919.
(SEAL) WM. H. C. WOODHURST,
County Judge.

Notice of Petition.

Estate No. 1716 of Christina Cohagen deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska. To all persons interested in said estate take notice that a petition has been filed for the appointment of Tennessee M. Cohagen as administrator of said estate, which has been set for hearing herein on January 30, 1920, at 9 o'clock a. m.

Dated January 3, 1920.
(SEAL) WM. H. C. WOODHURST,
County Judge.

NOTICE OF SALE.

In the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

Paris M. Sperry, Plaintiff, vs. Maggie Sperry, Delcie Wolfe, Wren Yost Maude Morrisson, Leta Sperry, John Sperry, Leslie Sperry, Ruth Sperry, Grace Sperry, Merle Sperry and Bud Sperry, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given, that in pursuance of a decree of the District Court made and entered in the above entitled action on the 24th day of December, 1919, the undersigned Referee duly appointed in said cause, and having taken the oath prescribed by law and the Court, which was duly approved by the Court, I, Ore E. Elder, the said Referee will offer at public auction at the East front door of the Court House of the county of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska, to the highest bidder for cash in hand the following described property by the said decree ordered to be sold, to-wit: The North West Quarter, the North East Quarter, the West Half of the South West Quarter and the East Half of the South East Quarter of Section Twenty-Two in Township Fourteen, North, Range Twenty-Eight, West of the 6th Principal Meridian.

Said sale will be held and said property offered for sale as aforesaid at 2 o'clock p. m. on Monday, February 2, 1920.

Dated this 29th day of December, 1919.
O. E. ELDER,
Referee.

Attachment Notice.

William Adair will take notice that on the 16th day of December, 1919, Paul G. Meyer, a Justice of the Peace of Lincoln County, Nebraska, issued an Order of Attachment for the sum of \$8.00, in an action pending before him, wherein Gilbert W. Barton is plaintiff, and William Adair is defendant; that property of the defendant, consisting of a trunk of wearing apparel, stationery, and notions, has been attached under said order.

Said cause was continued to the 26th day of January, 1920, at 11 o'clock a. m. GILBERT W. BARTON, Plaintiff.

423-3

Attachment Notice.

William Adair will take notice, that on the 12th day of December, 1919, Paul G. Meyer, a Justice of the Peace of Lincoln County, Nebraska, issued an order of attachment for the sum of \$10.00, in an action pending before him wherein Freeman B. Johnson is plaintiff and William Adair is defendant, that property of the defendant, consisting of a Ford delivery car, has been attached under said order. Said cause was continued to the 26th day of January, 1920, at 10 o'clock a. m. FREEMAN B. JOHNSON, Plaintiff.

423-3

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate No. 1697 of John Rylander, deceased in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, ss: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is April 30, 1920, and for settlement of said estate is December 19, 1920; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on January 30, 1920, at 10 o'clock a. m., and on April 30, 1920, at 10 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.

(SEAL) WM. H. C. WOODHURST,
County Judge.